

Nebraska Wind Energy Task Force

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January 25, 2001

Dear Governor Johanns:

In your remarks to the Nebraska Wind Energy Forum in September, you asked the participants to address several questions regarding the potential for development of Nebraska's wind resources. Following that meeting, a number of attendees and others have worked together over the past several months to find answers to those thoughtful questions.

We want to commend you for your questions. By focusing attention on these wind resource development issues, the group was able to forge a framework for discussion of key issues. We hope this work will provide a critical context for future policy discussion and development.

These issues are complex and unanimity was not always possible, but every effort has been made under rigid time constraints to achieve a consensus with which we could all live.

The findings and recommendations contained in the report only represent the thoughts of those listed on this page. This is a diverse and expansive state with many different views on if, how and when wind resources should be developed. We have not made any attempt to include all of those ideas.

Our primary recommendation is to establish a broadly based steering committee to work closely with the Nebraska Power Association in devising a wind development plan for Nebraska. We believe this plan should reflect and balance the desires and needs of all stakeholders in Nebraska's energy future. In addition, we believe Nebraskans should be carefully polled to determine their wishes with respect to development of wind power in the state.

We hope you — and others if you choose to release this report — will find the report helpful in developing state policies to harness the state's ample wind resources. We believe wind could become the state's next growth industry — just as ethanol did before it — if the right policies are put into place.

Sincerely,
Members
Nebraska Wind Energy Task Force